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bird," (with flute *obbligato* by Mr. Wells), which made us feel how little the lapse of time can weaken the charm of a real artist. Mr. Santley's song (also by Mr. Sullivan) "O mistress mine," is a clever composition, and was enthusiastically encored. Bach's Concerto in C minor, for two pianofortes, was played to perfection by Madlle. Mehlig and Mr. Franklin Taylor, and later in the evening Madlle. Mehlig performed Moscheles' "Recollections of Ireland," at the end of which the composer, who was present, received quite an ovation. The programme also included the Duet, "In such a night as this," (well sung by Miss Edith Wynne and Mr. Cummings) and the "Brisk Dance," two of the best pieces in Mr. Sullivan's Cantata, *Kenilworth*. The Concert was extremely well attended.

MR. MARSHALL HALL BELL gave a Recital of Pianoforte music on the 7th ult. at his residence, Grove end Road, St. John's Wood. We have before spoken in high terms of Mr. Bell's qualifications as a pianist, and have only to say that on this occasion he fully maintained his reputation. He was assisted in the instrumental department by Mr. F. Ralph (Violin), and Mr. H. Harper (Violoncello), and Miss Fanny Armytage was the vocalist.

THE announcement of our intention to notice some of the important Choral Festivals which have lately taken place has tempted so many of our subscribers to send us detailed accounts of those given in their immediate neighbourhood that we are reluctantly compelled to say how impossible we find it—with all our good feeling for the cause—to make room for their insertion; especially as most of them arrived at our office after the leading article on the subject had already extended beyond the prescribed limit. We may here say, however, that the gathering at Chelmsford, although the first Festival of the associated choirs, appears to have been highly satisfactory; and that the meeting of the parochial choirs in the parish church of Eccles—where fourteen choirs, which had been practised under the able direction of Mr. Meadowcroft, the honorary organist of the Manchester Cathedral, were represented—affords ample proof how much can be done by the exertions of an individual who throws his heart as well as his talents into the work.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

* * Notices of concerts and other information supplied by our friends in the country, must be forwarded as early as possible after the occurrence; otherwise they cannot be inserted. Our correspondents must specifically denote the date of each concert, for without such date no notice can be taken of the performance.

We beg to remind our correspondents that all notices of country concerts, whether written or extracted from newspapers, must be accompanied by the name and address of the person who sends them.

Our Correspondents will greatly oblige by writing all names as clearly as possible, as we cannot be responsible for any mistakes which may occur.

We cannot undertake to return offered contributions; the authors, therefore, will do well to retain copies.

Notice is sent to all Subscribers whose payment (in advance) is exhausted. The paper will be discontinued where the Subscription is not renewed. We again remind those who are disappointed in obtaining back numbers, that although the music pages are always stereotyped, only a sufficient quantity of the rest of the paper is printed to supply the current sale.

We should be glad to oblige "An old subscriber," but cannot endorse the opinion of a contemporary upon a performer we have not heard, especially when she made her appearance at a Concert in London for which no tickets were forwarded to our office.

J. H. B.—Our Correspondent will see that it is impossible for us to insert criticisms upon performers whom we have never heard. In the case of country Concerts of course we are compelled to do so; but, as the paragraph at the head of our country news will show, these notices are always duly authenticated, and we are in no way responsible for the opinions expressed.

We cannot insert the account of the opening of the new Organ at St. Mary Magdalene, Bristol, as the notice sent to our office is unauthenticated by the name and address of the person who forwarded it.

James Pratt.—Whenever triplets are met with in one hand, to be played against two or four notes in the other, the parts should be performed independently. We cannot undertake to give the instrumentation of every passage in the Overture to Dinorah; and it appears scarcely necessary to say that an organist who allows five beats in a bar in Common Time must be wrong. These questions are really too trivial for a Musical Journal.

Brief Summary of Country News.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for any opinions expressed in this Summary; as all the notices are either collated from the local papers, or supplied to us by occasional correspondents.

ABINGDON.—The last Concert for this season of the Musical Association was given on the 25th June, when Mendelssohn's *St. Paul* was performed. The solos, duets, &c., were sung by Mrs. Davis, Miss F. Hellis, and Messrs. G. F. Glanville, H. Clarke, and W. Tayler. Mr. E. L. Shepherd conducted.

ASHFORD, KENT.—A Fancy Bazaar and Exhibition of Objects of Industry, in support of the Congregational Church

Building Fund, took place at the Assembly Rooms, on the 7th, 8th, and 9th of June, realizing upwards of £300. The principal object of interest in the exhibition was an Organ of extraordinary pretension, built by a watchmaker during his leisure hours. The instrument contains 8 stops, 12 draw stops, and 435 pipes. It is built in the smallest space perhaps ever yet attempted, the machinery of the key movement and draw stop action occupying only nine inches in depth, whereas for church purposes about nine feet would be taken up for the same. It is enclosed in a case of mahogany, French polished, with a beautifully decorated front, presenting a very handsome exterior, the dimensions of which are 5ft. 6in. width, 4ft. 3in. depth, and 8ft. the height. The power and capabilities of the instrument were well displayed by Mr. H. Bretton, of Canterbury, whose performance of music from the best authors gained unbounded admiration.

CAPE TOWN.—A Cantata, entitled the *Flower Queen*, was given at a private rehearsal of the Vocal Classes of Misses Solomon and Amm's School on the 25th May. The poetry of this Cantata is written by Miss Frances Jane Crosby, a graduate of the New York Institution for the blind, and the music is by George F. Root, a well-known composer in America. The local papers speak very highly of the delicacy and beauty of the composition, which is written especially for ladies' schools; and we are assured that the young vocalists acquitted themselves to the entire satisfaction of a numerous audience.

CORK.—The opening of the new Parish Church of S.S. Peter and Paul's took place on the 29th June. The Mass selected for performance was Beethoven's in C, a work which has only lately taken the place it should do amongst the many beautiful services written for the Church. The choir consisted of nearly all the amateur talent of the city, vocal and instrumental, assisted by the band of the Royal 44th Dragoon Guards. It was conducted with much ability by Mr. T. J. Sullivan, Organist of St. Mary's Church in this city, and was sung throughout, not only by the solo voices, but by the chorus, with a care and precision highly commendable. The ceremonies concluded at a quarter past two o'clock, the orchestra and choir rendering, with splendid effect, the Hallelujah Chorus.

LEEDS.—The new series of the Town Hall Popular Concerts was brought to a close on Saturday evening, the 7th ult., by an excellent concert (the eighth) in every way worthy of its predecessors. Miss Beverley and Mr. Bell have established themselves as favourites at these concerts. The former gave a spirited rendering of "The Minstrel Boy," which was warmly encored, and she responded by singing "Her heart was in the song," in a manner even more effective. Mr. Bell's fine voice showed to great advantage both in his song of "The Wolf," and in the duet with Miss Beverley. Miss Grayston, a pupil of Mrs. Wood, made her *début* at this concert. She possesses a pleasing voice, and acquitted herself with great credit, and from the promise of her first appearance, will doubtless prove an acquisition to the concert-room.

NORWOOD.—The South Norwood Musical Society gave its second subscription Concert on the 10th ult., to a large and attentive audience. The programme comprised Weber's Mass in G, Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer," and a miscellaneous selection. The principal vocalists in the first part were Madame Gordon, Miss L. Stainburn, Mr. T. Fishwick, and Mr. Howgrave; and in the second part Mrs. Leete replaced Madame Gordon, and Mr. J. Bawtree took the tenor part, whilst Miss Cooper sang the contralto solo, "Agnus Dei," the whole being members of the society. The solos were extremely well given, the *Dona Nobis* (sung by Mrs. Leete) with its subdued choral accompaniment, being encored. In Mendelssohn's "Hear my prayer," the solo was rendered by Miss Whitaker with excellent appreciation of the beauty of the music and the meaning of its composer. The chorus was most efficient throughout, and gave ample proof of the good effect of vigorous training. The success of the concert was no doubt mainly owing to the untiring energy of Mr. Westbrook, the conductor, who evidently makes his task a pleasure. Mr. E. Bawtree replaced Miss Hobdell at the pianoforte, and acquitted himself to the satisfaction of all present.

OXFORD.—On Wednesday, June 27th, an exercise consisting of the 8th and the first two verses of the 9th Psalms, composed for the degree of Bachelor of Music by Joseph C. Tiley, Organist of St. Michael Bassishaw, Basinghall-street, London, was most successfully performed in the Music School by the principal members of the Choirs of Magdalen and New Colleges before the Vice-Chancellor, and Dr. Corfe. The final chorus is a fugue of 98 bars: in this fugue five forms of the subject are used—Original, Inverted, Diminished, Diminished and Inverted, and Augmented, the subject in one or more of its forms being heard in every bar.

REDCAR.—Special services were held at St. Peter's Church on Thursday, July 5th, on the occasion of the opening of the new Organ built by Forster and Andrews, of Hull. The morning and evening services were intoned by the Rev. F. S. Tireman (late Precentor of Carlisle Cathedral), and the lessons were read by the Rev. B. N. R. Batty, of Redcar. The Rev. E. Churton, Archdeacon of Cleveland, preached a suitable sermon in the morning, and the Rev. J. B. Dykes, of Durham, in the evening. The capabilities of the Organ were finely displayed by Mr. J. H. Righton, the organist and director of the choir. At the commencement of each service Mr. Righton played an extemporaneous voluntary, displaying to advantage the different stops, &c., which was followed in the morning by "O rest in the Lord," from Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, and in the evening by "He shall feed his flock," Handel's *Messiah*, both

as solos with accompaniment. Prominent among the rest of the solos on the Organ were—Costa's "March of the Israelites," Handel's "Lift up your heads," and "Hallelujah Chorus" (*Messiah*), Mozart's "Gloria in Excelsis" (2nd Mass), Beethoven's "Hallelujah" (*Mount of Olives*), and Handel's "Sing unto God" (*Judas Maccabeus*), all of which were most ably performed. Every one present seemed delighted, not excepting the Precentor and Dr. Dykes, who expressed themselves in high terms of appreciation of Mr. Righton's performances, and the services throughout. The services were choral both morning and evening, and comprised Tallis's Preces, Versicles, &c., Ouseley's Canticles and Psalms, and an Anthem both morning and evening.

SETTLE.—The Third Festival of the North Craven Choir Union was celebrated on Wednesday, 27th June, by two full Choral Services in Ascension Church. The Choirs from eight parishes in the Deanery, including about 120 voices, took part in the services, under the direction of Mr. Gott. The hymns, anthems, &c., were sung in an effective and reverential manner; and the general result was very encouraging. Morning Prayer and Litany were intoned by the Incumbent, the Rev. W. F. Pierson; and Evening Prayer by the Rev. A. Philipps. Mr. Barnett, the excellent Organist of the Church, presided at the organ, which has been recently brought down from the gallery, and re-built with various improvements by Forster and Andrews, of Hull. Large congregations assembled at both services.

STANWIN, NEAR CARLISLE.—On Wednesday, the 4th ult., the Reformatory Band accompanied the St. James's scholars to Keswick. The Pencil Works were visited by all the young people, who seemed to be much interested in observing the various processes of the manufacture. A most agreeable day was spent; some persons finding great pleasure in the laborious walk up Skiddaw; others had boats and rowed on Derwentwater; the Reformatory boys walked to Lodore and Borrowdale. The people of Keswick spoke in terms of great praise of the performances of the Reformatory Band, and several persons acted most kindly to these boys, who will, no doubt, be greatly improved by an occasional excursion like this.

SYDNEY.—An Amateur Concert was given at the Temperance Hall, on St. George's Day, April 23rd. The Concert was a private one, and the Hall was well filled by an appreciative audience specially invited by the performers. The orchestral music was carefully played by an amateur septet band; and nine pieces in the programme were encored.—The production of Meyerbeer's *L'Africaine*, by Mr. W. S. Lyster's Opera Company, appears to have been a decided success. No pains or expense seem to have been spared to place this work on the stage in a thoroughly complete manner; and the scenery, by Mr. John Henning, assisted by Mr. Massey and Mr. Burbury, is spoken of by the local papers in the highest terms of admiration. Madame Lucy Escott's *Selika* was a most admirable performance, the music being especially suited for her; and Mr. Henry Squires fully sustained his reputation in the arduous part of *Vasco di Gama*. Mr. Fred. Lyster, as *Nelusco*, Mr. Kitts, as *Don Pedro*, and Madame Rosalie Durand, as *Inez*, were also entitled to the warmest praise. Very great credit is due to Mr. Lyster for the manner in which he has laboured for the elevation of the musical taste of Sydney; and we trust that the public, in return, may fully compensate him for the outlay attendant upon the production of so many operas.

WORCESTER.—The second Concert of the Festival Choral Society for the present season, took place at the Music Hall, on the 22nd June. The principal vocalists were Miss Rose Hersee, Mr. T. Hunt (of the Chapel Royal, Windsor), Mr. J. Hodges, and Mr. Millward (of the Cathedral Choir). There was also a chorus of upwards of 100 voices, and an efficient corps of instrumentalists. The concert opened with the *Dettingen Te Deum*, the solos by Messrs. Hunt, Hodges, and Millward; and this was followed by a selection from the *Creation*, in which Miss Rose Hersee was heard to the utmost advantage, especially in the airs "With verdure clad," and "On mighty pens," the latter of which there was an evident desire to *encore*. Messrs. Hunt and Millward were also extremely successful in their solos; and the choruses were given with the utmost precision. Mr. Done conducted, and Mr. Spray led, with their accustomed ability; and the concert was in every respect a decided success.

WORKSOP, NOTTS.—The annual sermons in aid of the Choir Fund of the Abbey Church, were preached on Sunday, the 24th June, in the morning by the Rev. E. Lamb, M.A., and in the evening by the Rev. J. D. Gibson, M.A. The musical portion of the service comprised in the Morning, *Venite*, No. 10, Mercer; *Te Deum* and *Jubilate*, Lloyd Fowle; Responses, F. Staton; and Hymns 121, 362, and 400, from Mercer's Church Psalm and Hymn Book; and Evening, *Cantate Domino* and *Deus Misereatur* in A, by F. Staton; Anthem, "O taste and see," J. Goss; and Hymns 384 and 26 from Mercer; the whole of which was very efficiently rendered by the choir, which is entirely a voluntary one. The Service in A, by Mr. F. Staton, the organist of the church, was composed by him specially for the occasion, and was listened to with evident signs of admiration.

ORGAN APPOINTMENTS.—Mr. J. Hamilton Clarke to Queen's College, Oxford.—Mr. G. L. Postill to St. Mary's, Stoke Newington.—Mr. Henry Perkes to St. Peter's Hammersmith.—Mr. W. Reeves to St. Paul's, Westminster.—Mr. H. G. Read to All Saints', Surrey-square, Old Kent-road.—Mr. T. Backhouse to the Parish Church, Weston-super-Mare.

MR. GEORGE FIELD, of 1, Bladud Buildings, Bath, died on the 12th June, in his 57th year.

DURING THE LAST MONTH,

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BEST, W. T.—A Collection of Organ pieces composed for Church use. Book 3, price 3s. For Contents see page 354.

COOPER, GEORGE.—Organ Arrangements, No. 15, price 2s., containing Fantasia and Fugue, A. W. Bach, and "The Nations are now the Lord's," St. Paul, Mendelssohn.

BEAUCHAMP, FREDERICK, Earl of.—"Oh, how much more doth beauty beauteous seem." Glee for A.T.T.B. 1s. 6d. (This Glee gained the second prize offered by the Catch Club, June, 1866.)

BISHOP, Sir H. R.—"Though he be now a grey, grey Friar," Quintett, s.a.t.t.b., with Solos. No 42. Price 3d. —"Mynheer Vandunck," Glee, A.T.B., with Chorus, *ad lib.* No. 43. Price 3d.

—"Oh, Bold Robin Hood," Sestett, A.T.T.B.B. No. 44. Price 4d.

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—"Hart and Hind are in their lair," Quartett, A.T.T.B., and Chorus. No. 46. Price 3d.

FARMER, JOHN.—The Harrow Glee Book. No. 1, price 6d., contains Lorely, a German Melody for s.a.t.b. London: Novello and Co.

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